

Attorney in Memphis for the next five years. Governor Bufford Ellington appointed Horton to the Shelby County Criminal Court, a position to which he was later elected without opposition.

In 1968, at the peak of the civil rights movement, with the black sanitation workers in Memphis on strike, Mayor Henry Loeb appointed Horton as director of the city's hospitals, making him the only black division director in City Hall at the time. Horton dealt with a bitter strike by hospital workers, who were represented by the same union leadership as the sanitation workers. During the strike, Horton confronted officials at the University of Tennessee's medical school over the way their doctors treated patients at the hospitals. Judge Horton ordered the desegregation of William F. Bowld hospital and began moving some indigent patients to Bowld and Crump hospitals, which had been reserved for paying patients from the UT doctors' private practices. In 1969, he received the L.M. Graves Memorial Health Award as the person who did the most to advance the cause of health care in Memphis.

Judge Horton stepped down from the bench to serve as the President of LeMoyne-Owen College, a historically African-American liberal arts college, from 1970 to 1974.

Judge Horton returned to federal service upon his appointment as reporter for the Speedy Trial Act Implementation Committee by the Western District Court of Tennessee and later served as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge from 1976 to 1980.

After having served as both jurist and chief justice for the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Judge Horton took senior judge status on May 16, 1995, and two years later, closed his Memphis office.

Judge Odell Horton is remembered as a calm and patient judge, who carefully and deliberately explained legal concepts to jurors.

Judge Horton and his wife, Evie L. (nee Randolph), were married for over fifty years and have two sons, Odell, Jr. and Christopher, who graduated from his alma mater, Morehouse College in Atlanta.

Odell Horton's wife, Evie, spoke for so many in both his professional and personal life when she stated after his death, "He was a rare and precious jewel in the crown of humanity and made all our lives richer and better because he passed this way."

FREEDOM FOR MANUEL UBALS GONZÁLEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Manuel Ubals González, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Ubals González, President of the Political Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners Club in Guantanamo, Cuba, is a peaceful pro-democracy activist who has worked for basic human rights for the people of Cuba. The persistent repression of human rights on that oppressed island forced Mr. Ubals González to choose between a life without rights or fighting for the

cause of liberty for the Cuban people. Mr. Ubals González admirably chose to dedicate his life to the battle for freedom for the Cuban people.

He joined his fellow Cuban pro-democracy activists, journalists, and human rights defenders and committed himself to helping shed light on the atrocities committed by the brutal tyrant and to help put an end to the abhorrent nightmare that is the Castro regime. On March 20, 2003, as part of the totalitarian regime's ruthless crackdown on pro-democracy activists, Mr. Ubals González was arrested and, after a farce trial, "sentenced" to 20 years in the totalitarian gulag.

After this sham trial, Mr. Ubals González was sentenced to 20 years in Castro's maniacal dungeon for nothing other than a peaceful exercise of his fundamental right to voice his opinion. Let me be very clear, Mr. Ubals González in suffering in depraved conditions that the U.S. State Department describes as, "Harsh and life threatening" in which "police and prison officials beat, neglect, isolate and deny medical treatment to detainees and prisoners."

As always with prisoners of conscience in Cuba, Mr. Ubals González does not suffer this torture alone. According to the International Committee for Democracy in Cuba, his wife, Mayelin Bolívar González, must travel by train with her three children to visit her husband in prison. However, since the train does not stop at the prison, Mrs. Ubals is forced to watch her two oldest children jump from a moving train before following suit, holding the youngest in her arms every single time she attempts to visit her husband.

Mr. Ubals González is a brilliant example of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination and depravity of the totalitarian despot. He is languishing in repulsive squalor because he does not subscribe to the lies and propaganda forced upon Cuba by the communist regime.

Madam Speaker, it is unconscionable that human beings just 90 miles from our shore are locked in a barbarously cruel gulag because they believe they have a right to freedom and a democratic government. My Colleagues, we must demand freedom and human rights for all people, especially those who live under the darkness of totalitarian regimes. We must demand the unconditional freedom for Manuel Ubals González and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

INTRODUCTION OF 2007 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK RESOLUTION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, I rise today to introduce the 2007 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resolution on behalf of myself and my caucus co-chair, Congressman TED POE of Texas. This resolution expresses Congress's support of the goals and ideals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week and the efforts to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of crime victims and survivors in the United

States. This observance will take place the week of April 22 through April 28.

In 1980, President Reagan first called for a national observance to recognize and honor the millions of crime victims and survivors in America. National Crime Victims' Rights Week also pays tribute to the thousands of community-based and system-based victim services providers and to the criminal justice and allied professionals who provide critical support and assistance to victims every day, of every week, of every single year. National Crime Victims' Rights Week has since been proclaimed annually with ceremonies and observances in Washington, DC, and in thousands of communities throughout our Nation.

President Reagan's strong emphasis on the rights and needs of crime victims led to the passage of the Victims of Crime Act, which in 1984 created the Crime Victims Fund. Since then, the Crime Victims Fund has dedicated more than \$8 billion collected from criminal fines—not taxpayers' dollars—that annually supports more than 4,400 victim assistance programs serving some 3.8 million victims, and compensation to more than 165,000 victims for their unreimbursed medical expenses, lost wages and funeral costs. The adage, "crime doesn't pay, victims do," is challenged by the VOCA fund, which rightfully holds offenders accountable for their criminal actions, with fines ensuring that crime victims receive the services and support they so greatly need and deserve. And the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus has worked since its inception to preserve the intent and integrity of the Crime Victims Fund as created by President Reagan nearly a quarter century ago.

The 2007 National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme is "Victims' Rights: Every Victim. Every Time." Today more than ever, these simple words resonate with greater importance than ever before. In the decade between 1994 and 2004, the National Crime Victimization Survey found that violent crime rates declined, reaching the lowest level ever recorded in 2005. Unfortunately last year, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports reported that crime is, once again, on the rise—violent crime rose 3.7 percent; murders increased 1.4 percent; robberies were up nearly 10 percent; and arson increased by nearly 7 percent. This means more victims than ever suffer the indignation of crime, and have significant losses that affect them physically, emotionally, financially and spiritually. Our caucus and our Congress must recommit our energies to ensure that "every victim of every crime" has access to support and services.

I know that my colleagues in Congress have heard a great deal about violence and victimization, and have heard from those who are directly affected:

The teenage girl who leaves home for the first time to go to college, only to be drugged and raped at a campus party; or the young mother who is beaten by her husband on a regular basis, but fears leaving him because he's threatened to kill her kids, and she has no money, nor no place to go.

"Every victim. Every time."
Or the elderly man—who is abused in a nursing home; or the parents whose only son is killed in a violent drunk driving crash.

"Every victim. Every time."
Or the horrific day that nobody will ever forget—September 11, 2001—when nearly 3,000